

Message Text

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ACTION ACDA-10

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AMEMBASSY PARIS
USNMR SHAPE
CINC EUR VAIHINGEN
USMISSION GENEVA
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GENEVA FOR USSALTTWO

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: NATO, MNUC, PFOR, NPG, GW
SUBJECT: NPG: PUBLIC COMMENTARY AND FRG POLICY ON
CRUISE MISSILES

1. IN ITS NEWS SHOW LAST NIGHT, THE SECOND GERMAN
TELEVISION CHANNEL CARRIED A REPORT ON THE JUNE 8-9
OTTAWA NPG MEETING, IN WHICH THE COMMENTATOR (LOTHAR
RUHL) SHOWED A USAF FILM ON CRUISE MISSILES AND EMPHA-
SIZED THE IMPORTANCE OF THE AMERICANS KEEPING THE OPTION
OPEN AT THE SALT TALKS FOR POSSIBLE EUROPEAN DEPLOYMENT
OF CONVENTIONAL OR NUCLEAR-ARMED CRUISE MISSILES. THE
GERMAN TELEVISION MEDIA HAVE USED THE USAF FILM IN THE
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PAST TO INFORM THE PUBLIC ABOUT CRUISE MISSILE CAPA-
BILITIES.

2. THE FRG ALSO ADDRESSED THE CRUISE MISSILE QUESTION
IN ITS MAY 24 ANSWER TO THE "MAJOR QUESTIONS" ON
DEFENSE AND SECURITY POLICY POSED BY THE CDU/CSU OPPO-
SITION AND THE SPD/FDP COALITION PARTIES. WE EXPECT THE

BUNDESTAG DEBATE ON THE GOVERNMENT'S ANSWER TO TAKE
PLACE AFTER THE SUMMER PAUSE. THE PERTINENT SECTION
READS AS FOLLOWS:

BEGIN TEXT: WEAPON TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENTS MUST ALSO
BE SEEN IN THE CONTEXT OF TOTAL STRATEGY AS, FOR
EXAMPLE, CRUISE MISSILES AND THEIR SIGNIFICANCE FOR
SALT ON THE ONE HAND AND FOR THE SECURITY OF THE
EUROPEAN NATO PARTNERS ON THE OTHER HAND. THIS
WEAPONS SYSTEM IS NOT A REVOLUTIONARY DEVELOPMENT WHICH
FUNDAMENTALLY CHANGES THE STRATEGIC BALANCE OF POWER.
THE SOVIET UNION HAS HAD TACTICAL CRUISE MISSILES FOR A
LONG TIME AND IS EMPHASIZING DEVELOPMENT OF THIS SYSTEM.
BUT THE U.S. HAS A TECHNOLOGICAL LEAD. WITH THEIR
VARIABILITY WITHIN THE ENTIRE SPECTRUM OF NATO'S DETER-
RENCE AND DEFENSE, CRUISE MISSILES COULD PLAY AN IMPOR-
TANT ROLE. THEY COULD MODERNIZE THE ALLIANCE'S NUCLEAR
FORCES AND, IN THE LONG TERM, CONTRIBUTE TO THE
STRENGTHENING OF CONVENTIONAL FORCES.

CRUISE MISSILE TECHNOLOGIES ARE TO BE SEEN IN CONNECTION
-- WITH THE ALLIANCE'S NUCLEAR CAPABILITIES AND WITH THE
POWER RELATIONSHIP OVER THE SPECTRUM OF DETERRENCE
AND DEFENSE;
-- WITH ASYMMETRIES, ESPECIALLY WITH A VIEW
TO THE SOVIET INTERMEDIATE RANGE POTENTIAL AND ITS
MODERNIZATION WHICH IS NOT ENCOMPASSED BY SALT;
-- WITH OUR UNDERSTANDING THAT THE NATO TREATY AREA IS
A UNITY, AND;
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-- WITH THE MUTUAL DEPENDENCIES OF ARMS CONTROL NEGOTIA-
TIONS, INCLUDING THE QUESTION OF QUANTITATIVE AND
QUALITATIVE LIMITATIONS.

THE NATO PARTNERS ARE DISCUSSING THE CRUISE MISSILE
QUESTION TOGETHER WITH THE U.S. SOLUTIONS ARE BEING
SOUGHT WHICH CORRESPOND TO THE SECURITY INTERESTS OF
THE ALLIANCE AND WITH THOSE OF THE EUROPEANS. END TEXT.
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